## ANOTHER COMPROMISE PROPOSED.

IN SENATS-FREECART 28, 1850.

Mr. BELL. Mr. President, I have been waiting for several days for an appropriate occasion to present to the consideration of the Senate a ceries of propositions connected with the distracting question which has agitated us so long. I now courtesy of the Senate to extend to meethe privilege of making some explanations of the resolutions which I

public, for being the medium of presenting any series of pro-positions or resolutions upon a subject which has occupied the attention of this body so long, and in relation to which so great a number of propositions have already been submitted and remmented on by gendlemen far more distinguished for ability and influence in the country than myself. And, sir, desire to state that I trust I am not actuated in the slightest degree by any petty ambition of desiring to present propositions of my own; or that I have the presumption to suppose that I shall be able to offer any thing that will meet the general acceptation and approbation of this body; or, least of all, that I could aspire to the honor of being a spacificator. I neither pretend to, acr-am I entitled to that position here, or proposition. I mean as to the amount of the consideration in the country, as respects any weight to be given to any propositions I shall submit, because they come from me. No, sir, I do not claim this consideration, and I rather think that no particular weight or anticence can be given to any propotleman from the South. They must come from gentlemen from a different quarter—from the North, where the power exists to settle this question. The only small ment that I claim s that of being a compiler. I cannot say that there is a single one of the proposition, which I intend to present, that is entirely original, or one which has not passed through the ninds of at least a docen honorable Senators.

I do not propose, upon this occasion, to enter into a gene ral discussion of these distracting questions, important and interesting as they may be I only desire to submit such brief explanations of any suggestions contained in the resolutions which I have to present, which may be different from those embraced in the numerous propositions heret fore presented. I will not trouble the Senate by reading more than the last clause of the short preamble by which I have thought proper to preface the propositions which I design to present. It in in these words:

Whereas the joint essolution for annexing Texas to the United Sattes, approved March 1, 1845, contains the following condition and guaranty that is to say: "New States of convenient size, not exceeding four in number, in addition to said States I Texas, and having sufficient population, may hereafter, by the consent of said-State, be formed out of the territory thereaf, which shall be notitled to admission under the tory thereof, which shall be notitled to admission ander the provisions of the federal constitution; and such States as may be formed out of that portion of said Tertitory lying south of 36 deg. 30 min. north latitude, commonly known as the Missouri compromise line, shall be admitted into the Union with or without slavery, as the people of each State asking admission may deare; and in such State or States as shall be formed out of said territory north of said Missouri compromise line, slavery or involuntary servitude (except forceime) shall be prohibited."

The first proposition I propose to submit, sir, is in these

Resolved, That the obligation to comply with the condition and guaranty above recited in good faith be distinctly recepnised, and that, in part compliance with the same, as soon as the people of Texas shall, by an act of their Legislature, signify their assent, by restricting the limits thereof within the territory lying east of the Trinity and south of the Red river, and when the condition to the state of the territory claimed by and when the people of the residue of the territory claimed by Texas lying south of the 3-th degrae, of north latitude and west of the Trinity shall, with the assent of Texas, adopt a constitution republican innform, they be admitted into the Union upon an equal footage in all respects with the original States.

Territory of New Mexico; and that those Territories united have a form of Government provided for them suitable to the condition of the population, and without any restriction upon the subject of slavery. The resolution is in these words:

Resolved, That all the territory now claimed by Texas ly

I de not know, Mr. President, that there has been any desire manifested in the Southern States that a new slave State is should be now admitted into the Union, if it were practicable. have seen no notice of any such desire; no manifestation of any expectation even that such a proposition would be offered.

Nevertheless, sir, I am of opinion that it would have a most salutary and healing influence at this time throughout the whole South. I am aware of the existence of a sentiment prevalent to some extent at the South, which supposes it pro--so strong is the sentiment at the North, States, against the extension of the slave power in Congressthat, at any time hereafter, when in the course of events this proposition shall come directly from the people of Texas, the guaranty and conditions of the joint resolution referred to an the preamble will not be complied with. They seel no as-

T do not say that this expectation or this apprehension is I do not say that this expectation or this apprehension is the present andian territory of the United States. The point is stiffed by any thing I have seen avowed at the North; certified by a light of the I have seen avowed at the North; certified by a light of the I have seen avowed at the North; certified by a light of the I have seen avowed at the North; certified by a light of the I have seen avowed at the North; certified by a light of the I have seen avowed at the North; certified by a light of the I have seen avowed at the North; certified by a light of the I have seen avowed at the North; certified by a light of the I have seen avowed at the North; certified by a light of the I have seen avowed at the North; certified by a light of the I have seen avowed at the North; certified by a light of the I have seen avowed at the North; certified by a light o tity of free and slave territory in the United States, the large territories of Texas, embracing some two or three hundred square miles, have been uniformly pointed to as slave territories. It will be remembered that the Missouri compromise line is tory, out of which other slave States may properly, and without infringing upon the sentiments and opinions of the North, be admixed into the Union. It is for the purpose of meeting the difference of slave territory will be given up to become free, as I think will be conceded in the candid judgment of all states and the South and for the Parallel of opening is taken away from this

Again, Mr. President, it has been commonly the practice of the Government heretofore, when practicable, that when a slave State has been admitted a new free State should with their consent polluted with slavery. I say this with no be contemporaneously admitted. And so when a free State at ill feeling, but merely for the purpose of stating strongly that the North was newly admitted, if found practicable, a new slave State at the South came in at the same time. It was upon this principle that Maine was severed from Massachusetts and erected into a separate State when Missouri came Michigan and Arkansas were contemporaneously admitted, I believe, in conformity with the same sentiment. Iowa and Fiorida were I believe admitted in the same way. Sir,

am aware that this practice cannot be long continued. expectation can be, or is as far as I know, indulged by the South that it can be continued for any length of time to come. But now it is proposed to admit California as a free State. Here is a Territory, here is a population authorizing the admission of a slave State, and thus, if Texas were to assent to the formation of the new State, the practice might be con-tinued up to this time at least. I have said, sir, that no expectation of continuing this practice which has obtained here-tofore can be indulged by the South. Sir, what is the prospect before the slave States on this subject? Nebraska and It may be a Territorial Government in the usual form, if the the Territory of Minnesota will soon, very soon, form two is thought best, and then it will be in conformity with the the Territory of Minnesota will soon, very soon, form two additional face States. Oregon will present the country with four new States; two very soon, and two more to follow at a subsequent time. I speak advisedly on this subject, from my knowledge of the territory there. Two new free States will before a great while be formed there, and two may be postponed to some more remote period. California and New Mexico will give us four new States, it not six. Here, sir, at the last session of Congress; or of the amendment submitted by the Committee of Ways and Means in the House of Representations are that hill after it nessed from the Scanter Form Michigan (Mr. WALKER) to the Senate's bill, at the last session of Congress; or of the amendment submitted by the Committee of Ways and Means in the House of Representations to the hill after it nessed from the Senate's believe to the committee of Ways and Means in the House of Representations to the hill after it nessed from the Senater's believe to the committee of Ways and Means in the House of Representations of the distinguished Senator from Kentucky, (Mr. CLAX.) without the preamble attrached to his. If there be subsequent time, I suggest that it may be in the form of the amendment proposed by the honorable Senator from Michigan (Mr. WALKER) to the Senate's believe to the form of the amendment submitted by the form of the amendment submitted by the committee of Ways and Means in the House of Representations of the distinguished Senator from Kentucky, (Mr. CLAX.) without the preamble attrached to his. If there be subsequent time, I suggest that it may be in the form of the amendment proposed by the honorable Senator from Michigan (Mr. WALKER) to the Senator from Mentucky, (Mr. CLAX.) without the preamble attrached to his. If there be subsequent time, I suggest that it may be in the form of the distinguished Senator from Kentucky, (Mr. CLAX.) without the preamble attrached to his. If there be subsequent timportant to the form of the amendment proposed by the honorable S calculation, we have four to Oregon, four to New Mexico and California, and two to the new Territories already formed in the Northwest; to say nothing of the Territory still further north and west of the waters of the Missouri, we shall have ten new free States! And where is the equivalent to the slave States to be found? My first proposition is to admit one new state now in conformity with ancient practice, which must soon be abandoned. I propose to restrict the State of Texas to the territory lying east of the Trinity and south of slavery, if it is certain that slavery will never exist there in Red river; a territory large enough to form a magnificent State-one of the first class. The population in these limits is altoge her sufficient to authorize the formation of a State. I am advised that it is equal to the existing ratio of represen-

lation is more than sufficient to justify the formation of a new State, exceeding the population east of the Trinity by many

The proposition does not involve nor ask of the North any violation of sentiment or feeling there, unless it be one based it has no such adaptation to agricultural employment as that upon a design of violating sacred obligations, which I am sure slave labor can ever possibly be profitable. does not exist. It is in strict conformity with the plighted far more elevated than any which has ever yet been successpublic faith of the whole country, North and South. What fully cultivated by slave labor. It is so wholly unsuitable in forbids it, then? Texas, Mr. President, may not give its every respect that slave labor can never find prefitable emassent. I have no information to give to the Senate upon that playment there. The demand for labor in the mines will be subject. I am not authorized to say that any one member of the Texas delegation in this hou e, or in the House of Repre- go there as soon as mines shall be discovered rich enough sentatives, is prepared to give his assent to this proposition. But, be that as it may, say that Texas refuses her assent. yet here is a peace-off-ring from the North. So far as it is calculated to have any influence, whether it is rejected or some contingency—the bare conjecture of an accident now accepted by Texas, just credit will be due to the policy and inconceivable to the imagination—should the fate of the Union, raggnanimity, or rather justice of the North, in conceeding it by legislation, and making it depend upon the consent of the slavery restriction clause? Is the sentiment at the North a South, (of Texas,) whether this new State shall be admit- more blind impulse, having neither sense nor reason to sustain

agree to accept the cession of all the unappropriated domain in the territory claimed by Texas west of the Colorado river, ex ending north to the 42d parallel of north latitude and to cede the jurisdiction and sovereignty over, together with the upon this subject in this: that this proposition would prevent unappropriated domain of all the territory claimed by Texas the coming in of a new State before the people of the Terrinorth of the 34° of north latitude. I will read the resolution.

It speaks for itself : Resolved, That if Texas shall agree to cede, the United States will accept a cession of all the unappropriated do main in all the territory claimed by Texas, lying west of the Colorado, and extending north of the 42d parallel of north latitude, and to pay therefor a sum not exceeding — millions of dollars, to be applied in the first place to the extinguishment of any portion of the existing public debt of Texas, for the discharge of which the United States are under any obligations, implied or otherwise, and the remainder as Texas shall re-

this domain for any of the purposes intended to be accom- could be a recognition of slavery south of that line, it would

mission of another State, to be carved out of the Ferniory of Texas, whether slave or free to be determined by the people. It will probably be a slave State. In regard to which I have to remark that the apprehensions of the North on the subject of the creation of new slave States need notibe excited by the reading of this resolution. When admitted, it will be the last of its race. It will and must close the account, in my judgment, of slave States then and forever, on for as long as this Union lasts. If this proposition should be adopted, and this Territory be admitted into the Union as a State, there will then have been three slave States carved out of the territory belonging to Texas-Texas and the two new slave States now proposed to be admitted. This number, you will recollect, Mr. President, falls far short of the calculations of Southern gentlemen; of the advocates of the annexation of Texa-, when that question was presented to the American people. Four of five slave States, it was estimated, might and would be careed out of that territory. Four slave States might be carved out of that territory, because there is a country extensive enough, rich enough, fertile enough to sustain a population that would authorize its division into four States; with the arrangement now proposed, it would be impose ble that such a project should be ever entertained. The peo ple of these two States will not consent to have their boun daries cut down so as to reduce them to the condition of me dium sized States of this Union. They expect to be, and will maintain the prospect of being, large and populous States of the Union. Therefore, sir, there can be no prospect of the further admission of slave States into the Union at any time-My next resolution proposes to incorporate all the territory claimed by Texas north of the 34th parallel of north latitude, and extending to the 42d parallel of north latitude, with the Territory of New Mexico; and that those Territories united have a form of Government provided for them suitable to the

Resolved, That all the territory now claimed by Texas ly-Resolved, That all the territory now claimed by Texas lying north of the 34th parallel of north latitude, and which may be ceded to the United States by Texas, be incorporated with the Territory of New Mexico, except such part thereof as ites east of the Rio Grande and south of the 34th parallel of north latitude, and that the Territory so composed form a State, to be admitted into the Union when the inhabitants thereof shall adopt a constitution, republican in form, with the consent of Congress; but in the mean time, and until Cengress shall give such consent, provision be made for the government of the inhabitants of said Territory spitable to their condition, but without any restriction as to slavery. but without any restriction as to slavery.

The first point which will be suggested to the mind of

conorable Senators by this resolution is, that here is a sur-Fe, and extending thence east to the western boundary of tainly not by any thing I have heard avowed in this hall; for upon this point I must do the gentlemen of the North justice, and included in the Territory proposed to be erected into a new State west of the Trinity and south of the 24th parallel of north latitude, there will be an equivalent of slave territory soothing effect which the admission of such a State into the Union now would have, that I have thought proper to proposition, on the part of those who may be called, the "no-inch of new slave territory" party. I mean that party who pose it. here is a full equivalent of slave territory given up to be made free territory, for all that is claimed to be now included in the boundaries of the new States proposed to be carved out of Texas.

Another point worthy of consideration in this propo s, that it would close the controversy between Texas and New Mexico, in regard to the Territory on the Rio Grande. It is proper to mention that a small portion of this territory lies south of the 34th parallel of north latitude, and east of the Rio Grande, embracing a region of little value, left to be embraced in the new State now to be admitted. But by the acceptar.ce of this proposition the controversy growing out the Texan claim to the Rio Grande will be finally adjusted.

The government which I have proposed for the Territory of New Mexico thus united with that which may be ceded by Texas, is to be one suitable to the condition of the peop of the country, but to be without any restriction as to slavery sentatives to that bill after it passed from the Senate. For every point of practical utility, either of these propositions would suffice. For one, it is my deliberate judgment that whatever form of Territorial Government be established whether a provisional or other Government, with or withou restrictions in regard to slavery, there will be the same practi

I know it may be asked, why object to a clause restrictin any event? I answer, because the proposition to impose this restriction has been the chief source of the agitation in the Southern section of the Union ever since the question was first raised in relation to the disposition which should be made of The new State proposed to be admitted into the Union with the assent of Texas includes all the territory now claimed by Texas lying west of the Trinity and south of the thirty fourth parallel of north latitude. The territory proposed for the new State, it will be perceived, is of very large extent; the population is more than sufficient to invite the formation of a new sent organization of material creation stands, African slavery

can never find a foothold in New Mexico.

Mr. CORWIN. Why?

Mr. BELL. The honorable Senater from Ohio asks why? Because I say, sir, that by the formation of the country amply supplied by the thousands of free emigrants who will to justify the working of them, to say nothing of the Indian population, which supplies the cheapest labor of all. Why, then, upon the vague fear in the minds of gentlemen that Into the Union.

My next resolution, Mr. President, proposes, if Texas shall gencies would by no gentleman be made a ground for insist-

ing upon the introduction of this offensive restriction. I consider this proposition only better than that submitted by the President of the United States in his special message tory shall be duly qualified to take upon themselves the charge of self-government. The population of New Mexico has not increased so rapidly as was conjectured a year ago. I believe that there are very few Americans there now. It is mostly a thoroughfare to the great attraction on the borders of the Pacific. Our adventurous young men do not stop there; they press on to California.

I know that many Southern gentlemen, for whose opinio I entertain a high respect, say that the Missouri compromise line should at all hazards be adhered to. I cannot agree with them. I will not enter into a discussion now upon that point.

Here, again, the first question presented is, will Texas code. I will only say, that, even if it could be obtained, even if there.

tlement in it shall require. This is proposed, upon the idea that it is not proper or expedient to give any assurance to that peculiar people, the Mormons, by providing a separate Territorial Government for them, or to hold out any expectation that they will ever be admitted into the Union as a separate State. It may be proper that they should be admitted; but till they will ever be admitted into the Union as a separate State. It may be proper that they should be admitted; but till we know more of their policy, designs, and institutions—I speak not exclusively of religious institutions—I should think that no Senator would be disposed to do more for them than to extend to them an adequate protection. The proposition in this resolution is to provide for the Mormons, and all other settlements and inhabitants, as in the case of New Mexico, a form of government suited to their coadition. They will want but little more than the protection of our arms, at least, for a considerable time, against the depredictions and massacre.

for a considerable time, against the depredations and massacre of the Indians.

The next resolution proposes the immediate admission of California as a State of the Union; and it embraces the idea of accepting its present boundaries. It has been objected to the admission of California that her boundaries are too extensive; that her territory is too large; that two or more states might be carved out of the territory assigned to it. Be it so. Is it desirable that it should be so divided, either to the North Is it desirable that it should be so divided, either to the North or to the South. It will make a large and powerful State, it is true; but, for my part, I wish it had included the country of the great Salt Lake in addition to its present territory. I care not how large it is. It will not be so large, I believe, as the proposed new State to be erected in Texas. It is objected, and strong exception is taken to the manner in which the constitution was framed; but it should be remembered that that constitution is estisfactory to the inhabitants of that that that constitution is estisfactory to the inhabitants of that country; and upon what protext, therefore, can Congress object? We hear no murmurings of dissatisfaction on the part of any of the inhabitants of California. There was, inseed, a small minority opposed to it on some particular points, but they acquiesced in its adoption by the majority. As to the competency of the people for self-government, I would refer you to the provisions of the constitution itself. It is not acceptable to me; it is not acceptable to the South gene raily on one particular point; but it is clear that that is a

f that country.

I know it is objected that many of the residents of California are not citizens of the United States; that they are not permanent residents; that a great pertion of them are foreigners, who have found their way into that country in pursuit of gold; or that they are transient passengers. But where is the evidence of that? The whole population of that Territory is described as being about a hundred thousand and some ten or fifteen thousand, no doubt, may have gone there with a view of returning as soon as they have gratified themselves by seeing the country, or in reaping as much of i's fruits as they can secure. But, sir, there is also a class of permanent inhabitants-not including the old Mexican inha-

under the exercise of an improper influence on the part of the President of the United States. I have seen no evidence to sustain that suggestion. The initiative in the formation of that constitution was taken before any message or even any ship arrived from the United States conveying a message from the President; before any intelligence had reached their shores as to what were the opinions and policy of the Presi-dent upon that subject. That is a fact incontestably estab-lished. And, sir, in regard to the recommendation which he afterwards gave through his agent, even the impartial objectors to this constitution do the President the justice to impute the most patriotic motives to him; and I add also that he was guided by what was then, and would be now, under the circustances, the soundest policy and the truest wisdom in relation to the true interests of this country. Wisdom and patriotism were alike conspicuous in the policy of the President in relation to this subject. And what was it? Merely to give his countenance to the manifestation of their true opinions regarding the form of government which they should adopt. I have not heard one intimation, public or private, founded upon evidence or authority, that he desired, meditated r suggested any thing in relation to the question of slavery or no slavery in the formation of this constitution, leaving the people entirely free from any influence he might possess as the supreme Executive of the Union. I am, therefore, in favor the immediate admission of California into the Union with its present boundaries, in connexion with the other proposi-tions which I submit. I say nothing of what I should do if the question were to come up stripped of all other questions.

The next proposition proposes to regulate the manner in which and the time when the people of the Territories of the United States shall in future adopt State constitutions. That, I think, we all see the importance of at the present time. I proposes to avoid the irregularity and anomalies which, in instances, have heretofore attended the formation of State constitutions by the inhabitants of the Territories, which are always more or less embarrassing to the Government, and are likely to be still more so in view of the great number of new States which will soon be pressing their claims for ad mission into the Union. I think the proposition speaks for

The next resolution proposes that when Congress shall consent that the people of any Territory shall form a State constitution, they shall have the sole power to regulate their internal affairs and policy on every question whatever; and that they shall be controlled only by the express restrictions contained in the Constitution of the United States. This is only important in view of quieting for the future all apprehen-sions as to certain questions which have heretofore given much dissatisfaction. This is merely a quieting proposition.

The last proposition is that these several propositions be committed to the Committee on Territories, with instructions to report a bill in conformity with their spirit and principles. I have purposely avoided, Mr. President, as the Senate will see, incumbering these resolutions with too many provisions; with subjects and questions not altogether distinct, but which was be sailed discovered to be a controlled. visions; with subjects and questions not anogener distinct, but which may be easily disposed of when separately taken up and considered. There is the fugitive slave bill; I have gard them.

The resolutions were then sent to the Secretary's desk, and trust that whatever Congress can do will be done. And so as to the question of the abolition of slavery and the slave-trade in the District of Columbia. I believe these questions can be readily and satisfactorily adjusted, if we can only settle this great question in controversy relating to the newly-acquir-ed Territories of New Mexico and California,

Mr. President, I do not propose to enter into any general discussion, or into the discussion of the general principles involved in this question of slavery now. Perhaps I may on some future occasion; but I desire to be indulged, before I close, with a few remarks of a general nature.

I have not obtruded myself, as the Senate well know, upon the attention of this body in the discussions with which have been so liberally entertsined and interested during the present session. I have not done so, mainly because I did not believe myself able to shed light upon the path of other gentlemen, and especially when I could see my own pathway, or the one I was inclined to tread, so dimly. I have no bigoted conceit, or confidence, with regard to any proposition, not even those which I have now presented. They are the best, under the circumstances, that I can conceive of; and upon the suggestion, and with the advice of a few friends, I have undertaken to present them. I do not know that they will meet with general acceptance even from gentlemen from the South, while I would be satisfied with them, as indeed I would with some in a diff rent shape. Yet, sir, of what consequence is my individual opinion upon such a subject? I sam but an individual. The sentiments of the South at this time may go far beyond any conception which I may have of what they would deem satisfactory.

Mr. Preside at, I believe I have been neither more nor less agitated or excited, in contemplating the present distracted gentlemen, and especially when I could see my own pathway,

billion by thiry reposition; and the second quantom is, what price should the Government of the United States pay from the Conserve to be the same subject of impairs. And the Government of the United States pay from the Conserve to be the same subject of impairs. And the Conserve to be the same subject of impairs. And the Conserve to be the same subject of impairs, and the conserve the Line is same engloyment, would not offer a settlem to the conserve the Line is same engloyment, would not offer a settlem to the Conserve to be the same subject of impairs and the conserve the Line is same engloyment, would not offer a settlem to the conserve the Line is same engloyment, would not offer a settlem to the construction of the United States pay from the Line is same to the construction of the United States pay the United States pa

But I am not altogether free from apprehension as to the consequences to the peace and harmony of this country, if those who hold the majority powers hould, in the settlement of these distracting questions, exercise it stringently and arbitrarily. I may have indulged in sentiments and opinions in relation to the good sense, the justice, and the patriotism of Northern gentlemen far too generous and confiding; but I shall not surrender those opinions until I see the most decided manifestations of a contrary soiri

tations of a contrary spirit.

Sir, I am afraid that the sentiment is but too common with Northern gentlemen, in viewing the demonstrations in the South of a spirit of determined resistance to the avowed policy of the North, upon the subject of slavery, in the light of

dicy of the North, upon the subject of slavery, in the light of mere bravado—of gasconade.

I have heard, in my private intercourse with Northern gentlemen, the suggestion that most or all of these extreme resolves at the South, these extreme demonstrations, may be fairly imputed to party, to the impulsive passions, and to the firregular ambition of political aspirants, and that it would be discreditable and pusillanimous in the North to yield a tittle of what they have considered their true policy upon this subject, under such circumstances. I desire to tell these gentlemen, in all-candor, that I think they are mistaken. I have watched the whole movement for years, and I think I have seen a considerable accession of strength to those who favor extreme measures of resistance and redress among leading men in measures of resistance and redress among leading men in many of the States of the South, not to say in all who are not active participants in the party strife of the day. I have seen, too, in some of the Southern States, leading men of both parties co-operating in the same cause. Every day I hear of some gentleman of intellect and influence, to whom it would be unfair to impute motives of personal or party aggrandizement, committing himself to these violent resolves. Is it, then, the part of wisdem to say that no consideration is due to these movements? For, though no consideration is due to these movements? For, though it may be that the great body of the farming and planting init may be that the great body of the farming and planting in-terests repose in quiet on their farms and plantations, undis-turbed by the storm which rages around them, yet, when leading and siber-minded citizens, one after another, yield to the suggestions of the more intemperate and excited, how seen may a whole population be brought to rally in support of the most violent and dangerous schemes?

But, suppose it to be true, as alleged, that most or all of

hese violent demonstrations are to be ascribed to party inte-cests and views; to the irregular wicked passions; to the un bridled ambition of political aspirants; still are not these the great elements of mischief, the most potent elements of discord, dissatisfaction, and convulsion in all free Governments; and s it no part of the duties of a wise statesman in this country to give his attention seriously to these sources of danger to the Republic? And when, to the potency of these elements of power in an attempt (as it may be so) to overturn the Government, you superadd a deep sense of wrong and injury, difernment, you superadd a deep sense of wrong and injury, our fused among a numerous class, embracing extensive sections, populous and powerful States, can you still say that it is no part of wisdom to give any serious or grave consideration to these combined influences? Will you still compose your minds to the belief that these demonstrations are not to be rebitants—enterprising men, who have become residents; who have acquired a foothold on the soil, who have made valuable improvements, who have fixed their destines there during garded, because the causes which produced them are such as

improvements, who have fixed their destines there during life. A large number of this class are engaged in various enterprises; not merely in gold digging, but in the cultivation of the soil, in the erection of buildings, in the pursuit of trade and commerce, building up towns and sities. These are the portion of the population, at least it was this description of population, at least it was this description of population who had the principal agency in forming this constitution. They are satisfied with it, and that is sufficient.

I distinguished Senator, whose absence from the centage is at once accorded. It requires no entry on the journals.

Mr. KING. I trust the simple suggestion will be consideration connected with the interest and destiny of this great country. And let me say, too, that the North must hear a large share of the responsibility of bringing this condibear a large share of the responsibility of bringing this condi-tion of things upon the country; for it was by Northern votes, by Northern support, that the war was brought on out of which these new acquisitions were made. It was in goo part by Northern support and countenance that these acquisi-tions of new territory were insisted on and effected. Will they now desert their brethren and allies of the South, and say they will not come to their relief in this fearful exigency,

roduced by their joint counsel and united efforts? Mr. President, the main pillar upon which the Union rests for its preservation has its foundation in the mutual confidence, the ties of reciprocal interest, and fraternal regard between its different members and sections. These have been the essential elements of that noble sentiment of loyalty to the Union which has hitherto preserved it unscathed and unburt amid all the storms that have assailed it. Let this sentiment of loyalty be once materially impaired; let this cord, strong as it may be, yet of the finest and most delicate texture, and now strained to the highest point of tension, by any untoward act of violence or resh policy be snapped—its grappling on the hearts of the people in any of their great sectional divisions unloosed and broken—from that moment, sir, the question of the preservation or of the destruction of the Union will cease to inspire a rational interest. If it is preserved, its existence will be nominal; its blessings and advantages a mockery. How long is it since we have seen a mere handful of men— I will not call them factionists in an offensive sense, but in the legitimate sense—in the House of Representatives, interposing between the two great and legitimate parties of the country, and preventing the organization of the House, and delaying the whole business of legislation for an entire month? Let such a spirit as that be once diffused among the Representatives of nearly half the Union, and your Govern-ment is as effectually paralyzed and defeated of its object as though this Union were, in terms, dissolved.

I have heard other remedies, other reliances, I will not say what, alluded in private conversation, for the preservation of the Union—alluded to, I think, upon no great consideration. But, sir, this Union can never be preserved by enforced observance of its obligations. Your army and navy are not compe tent to it under circums ances of peril like the present. No sir, this Union cannot be preserved by all the sacred a socia-tions or traditionary references derived from its early history; nor by a regard to obligations contracted in the most solemn and imposing forms, and attested by the most venerated names; nor by glory won under a common banner; nor by a world-wide same; nor by all these united, if, by any act or

world-wide fame; nor by all these united, if, by any act or scheme of policy deliberately planned, any great principle of common and equal justice as between the different sections of the Union should be wantonly and flagrantly violated.

Mr. President, I purpose at this time to say no more upon this subject. I beg pardon of the Senator from Texas (Mr. Rusk) for having trespassed so long upon his courtesy, and of the Senate for having taxed their patience. I propose that these resolutions be laid upon the table, and that they be printed. Whether I shall move the further consideration of them at any future time will not depend upon me so much as them at any future time will not depend upon me so much as upon the favor with which the Senate may be disposed to re-

were ordered to be printed, as follows:

Whereas considerations of the highest interest to the whole Whereas considerations of the highest interest to the whole country demand that the existing and increasing dissensions between the North and the South on the subject of slavery should be speedily arrested, and that the questions in controversy be adjusted upon some basis which shall tend to give present quiet, repress sectional animosities, remove, as far as possible, the causes of future discord, and secure the uninterrupted enjoyment of those benefits and advantages which the Union was intended to confer in equal measure upon all its

nembers : And whereas, it is manifest, under present circumstances, tha And whereas, it is manifest, under present ercounstances, that no adjustment can be effected of the points of difference unhappily existing between the Northern and Southern sections of the Union connected with the subject of slavery which shall secure to either section all that is contended for, and that must constant of the property of the sections of mere policy, not involving tual concession upon questions of mere policy, not involving the violation of any constitutional right or principle, must be the basis of every project affording any assurance of a favora-

the territory claimed by Texas, lying south of the 34th parallel of north latitude and west of the Colorado, shall be equal to the ratio of representation in Congress under the last preceding apportionment, according to the provisions of the constitution, and the people of such territory shall, with the assent of the new State contemplated in the preceding resolution, have adopted a State constitution republican in form, they be admitted into the Union as a State upon an equal footing with the original States.

4. Resolved, That all the territory now claimed by Texas, lying north of the 34th parallel of north latitude, and which may be ceded to the United States by Texas, be incorporated with the Territory of New Mexico, except such part thereof as lies east of the Rio Grande and south of the 34th parallel of north latitude, and that the territory so composed form a State, to be admitted into the Union when the inhabitants thereof shall adopt a constitution, republican in form, with the consent of Congress; but in the mean time, and until Congress shall give such consent, provision be made for the government of the inhabitants of said Territory suitable to their condition, but without any restriction as to slavery.

5. Resolved, That all the territory ceded to the United States by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, lying west of said Territory of New Mexico and cast of the contemplated new State of California, for the present continue one territory, and for which some form of government suitable to the condition of the inhabitants be provided without any restriction as to slavery.

6. Resolved, That the constitution recently formed by the

condition of the inhabitants be provided without any testition as to slavery.

6. Resolved, That the constitution recently formed by the people of the western portion of California, and presented to Congress by the President on the 13th day of February, 1850, be accepted, and that they be admitted into the Union as a State upon an equal footing in all respects with the original States.

States.

7. Resolved, That in future the formation of State constitutions by the inhabitants of the Territories of the United States be regulated by law, and that no such constitution be hereafter formed or adopted by the inhabitants of any Territory belonging to the United States without the consent and authority of Congress.

8. Resolved, That the inhabitants of any Territory of the United States, when they shall be authorized by Congress to

S. Mesolved, That the inhabitants of any Territory of the United States, when they shall be authorized by Congress to form a State constitution, shall have the sole and exclusive power to regulate and adjust all questions of internal State policy, of whatever ansure they may be, controlled only by the restrictions expressly imposed by the constitution of the United States.

9. Resolved, That the Committee on Territories be instructed to report a hill in conformity with the spirit and prince the states.

structed to report a bill in conformity with the spirit and prin-ciples of the foregoing resolutions. ADMISSION OF CALIFORNIA.

Mr. HAMLIN. With the consent of the Senator from Texas, (Mr. Rusk,) I move that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the President's message on the subject of California. I do it only for the purpose of assigning a day for ts consideration.

Mr. BUTLER. Mr. President, I have a suggestion to offer, which I might as well make now as at any other time. I rise, on the part of my colleague, to make a request of the Senate that he shall be allowed an opportunity, at one o'clock on Monday next, to present his views to the Senate on the resolutions of the Senator from Kentucky, (Mr. CLAY,) which believe were made the special order for to-day. He has been affected for some time by the cold weather of the season, and within the last few days has greatly recovered, though, in the estimation of his friends, it has not been thought advisable that he should attempt to deliver his views in the Senate, and he has therefore requested me to ask the Senate to allow him—he of course being present—the privilege of having his remarks read by some friend at that hour. With these remarks-

Mr. DICKINSON. No motion is required; the mere re uest is enough.

Mr.-BUTLER. Very well, I am satisfied if such shall

pe considered the general understanding of the Senate.

Mr. CLAY. I rise to express my hearty concurrence the suggestion, and I hope that, without its being necessary to make any entry of the fact on the journals, it will be unanimously considered that the request of the eminent and distinguished Senator, whose absence from the Senate is cause

hope the Senator will have the power to be present himself; but if not, then I am willing, as is no doubt the Senate, that some friend shall read his views for him, even if he is ot present.
Mr. CLAY. Undoubtedly.

The motion of Mr. HAMLIN to postpone the further consideration of the President's message on the subject of Cali-fornia until Tuesday next was then agreed to. THE COMPROMISE.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the ompromise resolutions of the Senator from Kentucky, (Mr.

CLAT.)
Mr. WALKER. Before the Senator from Texas take the floor, I wish, as I understand it is his intention to speak to the resolutions generally, to offer an amendment to the second resolution of the Senator from Kentucky. Mr. RUSK. I have no objection to yield the floor for that

Mr. WALKER. I have no disposition to occupy it, except to offer an amendment to the second resolution of the Senator from Kentucky, to which I will call his attention. I propose to amend the second resolution by inserting the words "but has been abolished and prohibited together with the slave trade," after the word "law," in the first line; by striking out the word "is," and inserting "can," in the same line; by striking out the words "likely to" in the first and second line, and by inserting after the word "Mexico," in the third line; the words " without positive enectments;" so that, thus mended, the resolution will read as follows :

"Resolved, That as slavery does not exist by law, but ha been abolished and prohibited, together with the slave wade, and cannot [is not likely to] be introduced into any of the territory acquired by the United States from the Republic of Mexico waithout positive enactments, it is inexpedient for Congress to provide by law either for its introduction into, or exclusion from, any part of the said Territory," &c. Mr. RUSK then resumed, and concluded the speech which

e commenced yesterday.

Mr. WALKER. I propose that the amendment which I submitted this morning be printed, and I will then move to postpone the further consideration of the resolutions until

Mr. HALE. I want to ask the attention of the honorable Senator from Texas for one moment. I listened to his re-marks with a great deal of pleasure, but I want to correct a marks with a great deal of pleasure, but I want to correct a statement made by him in regard to a matter of history. The Senator spoke of a certain hobby. I suppose he alluded to the Wilmot proviso, upon which, he said, individuals had ridden into Congress. I will inform the Senator, so far as so humble an individual as myself is concerned, that I was elected to Congress some twelve months before the introduction of that provise. The Senator will be supposed to the contract of the senator of the tion of that proviso. The Senator will perceive, therefore, that I, at least, have not ridden into Congress upon that

Mr. RUSK. The honorable Senator mistakes me if he supposes that I said he rode into Congress upon the Wilmot proviso. I said it was a Senatorial hobby. I am willing to give the Senator from New Hampshire credit for coming in on foot, and I hope he will keep on foot. [Laughter.] The motion to print and to postpone was agreed to. And the Senate adjourned.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, February 25, 1850.

Among the papers presented to day was one by Mr. Schenck of a journal and proceedings of a Convention of delegates elected by the people of New Mexico, held at Santa Fe on the 24th of September, 1849, presenting a plan for a civil government of said Territory of New Mexico, and asking the a tion of Congress thereon; which he moved to have referred to the Committee on Territories and printed.

Mr. HOWARD proposing to debate the petition—

Mr. SCHENCK moved that the rules be suspended, for the purpose of considering his motion now; which motion was agreed to: Yeas 135, nays 42.

The question was then taken on the motion of Mr. SCHENCK, that the petition be referred to the Committee on Territories and be printed, and it was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. BOWLIN asked the unanimous consent of the House MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1850.

Schence, that the petition be referred to the Committee of Territories and be printed, and it was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. BOWLIN asked the unanimous consent of the House to intro luce the following resolutions:

1. Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, it is alike expedient and competent, under the constitution, for the Government of the United States to construct a railroad or other thoroughfares over the public domain without the limits of a State, so as to unite for military and commercial purposes the distant and separate portions of the Republic.

2. That such a connexion ought only to be made and owned by the Government through our own territory, where the trade along, its lines would be forever under the protection of our own flag, and tend to encourage the occupation and cultivation

Mr. ROOT objecting—
Mr. BOWLIN moved a suspension of the rules; which notion was decided in the negative, two-thirds not voting.

therefor.
On motion of Mr. THURSTON, the rules were suspended for the purpose of enabling him to offer the following resolution, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Territories be in-

s'ructed to inquire—

1st. What is the probable present population of Oregon Territory, and what proportion of said population are American eitizens, and what proportion foreigners, and what proportion of said foreigners have filed their intention to become American eitizens.

2). What first led to the settlement of said Territory by 23. What first led to the settlement of said Territory by American citizens; what inducements were held out to emigrants to that Territory from the States; the extent and nature of those inducements; by whom held out; and what benefit has accrued to the General Government from the settlement of that Territory by American citizens.

3d. What time it takes for emigrants to get to that Territory overland, or by water, and what are the probable expenses of the increase each way.

overland, or by water, and what are the probable expenses of the journey each way.

Ath. How long after the commencement of emigration to that Territory before the General Government provided the settlers there with a civil government; how long the people of said Territory had maint ined a civil government at their own expense; when the Territory was organized by the General Government; and what were the hardships and inconveniences attendant on a settlement in that Territory not peculiar to a settlement in the several Territories which have been settled east of the Rocky Mountains.

5th Into the propriety and justness of donating land to all American citizens now in said Territory, or on their way there for the purpose of settlement, and to all foreigners now there who shall become naturalized American citizens; and into the quantity of land to be donated, and the necessary rules and regulations to be attached to donations made to native-born and naturalized American citizens respectively.

6th. Into the propriety of donating land, in proper quantities, and with proper rules and regulations, to such American citizens as shall emigrate to and settle in said Territory hereafter, and to the sons of American citizens in said Territory hereafter becoming of age and settling there.

7th. Into the propriety where the sixteenth or thirty-sixth

after, and to the sons of American citizens in said Territory hereafter becoming of age and settling there.

7th. Into the propriety, where the sixteenth or thirty-sixth sections, reserved for school purposes by the act of organization, shall conflict with the land claims of individuals as allowed by the laws of the late Provisional Government of said Territory, of allowing said claimants to hold their claims still, and the Territorial Government to select other lands of equal value in some part of the Territory not claimed.

And, finally, that said committee be further instructed to inquire into the best means to be adopted by the Government of promoting the settlement and prosperity of said Territory, and into the importance of the settlement and prosperity of that Territory to the commerce of the United States.

Mr. SIBLEY (the rules having been suspended for that

Mr. SIBLEY (the rules having been suspended for that purpose) offered the following resolution, which was agreed to: Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be in-

First, To inquire into the sufficiency of the military force now stationed on the frontiers of Iowa, Wisconsin, and Min-nesota Territory, for the delense thereof. Secondly. In case said force is not sufficient, and there are no

means at the disposal of the Department of War to increase it, said Committee to report a bill authorizing the President of the United States to call into the service of the United States such volunteers as may by him be deemed n On motion of Mr. HUNTER, the House then adjourned

till to morrow at 12 o'clock. WEDNESDAY, FFBRUARY 27, 1850.

The following bills were severally introduced by leave, ead, and respectively referred to appropriate commi By Mr. JOHNSON, of Tennessee: A bill to provide a homestead of 160 acres of the public domain for every man who is the head of a family and a citizen of the United States, or any widow who is the mother of a miner child or children,

who may become permanent occupants and cultivators of the soil; which was read twice.

By Mr. MOORE: A bill to discourage speculation in the public lands, and to secure homes thereon to actual settlers.

By Mr. ASHMUN: A bill to reduce the rates of postage and to abolish the franking privilege.

By Mr. BRIGGS: A bill to establish a branch mint of the

United States in the city of New York.

Mr. PECK offered the following preamble and resolution: Mr. PECK offered the following preamble and resolution:
Whereas the owners of important inventions complain
that great injustice is done them by the unauthorized erection
of machinery in the Provinces of Canada, for which they have
obtained letters patent, under acts of Congress, by which machinery goods are manufactured is the said Provinces and sent
into the United States for sale: Therefore—
Resolved, That the Committee on Patents be instructed to
inquire into the expediency of some further legislation upon
this subject, with the view of protecting inventions from the
injury complained of, and that they report by bill or otherwise.
The resolution was agreed to.

CALIFORNIA AND NEW MEXICO. On motion of Mr. THOMPSON, of Mississippi, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, (Mr. Born, of Kentucky, in the chair.)
On motion of Mr. TOOMBS, (who was entitled to the floor,) the consideration of the annual message of the President of the United States was set aside, and the committee

dent of the United States was set aside, and the committee proceeded to consider the message of the President in relation to California and New Mexico.

Mr. DOTY, (Mr. Toones yielding,) offered the following bill for the admission of California as a State into the Union:

An act to admit the State of California into the Union.

Whereas the people of California have formed for themselves a Constitution and State Government, and applied for admission into the Union as a State; and whereas the said constitution has been officially communicated to Congress, and is republican: Therefore—

Sec. 1. Be it enacted, &c. That the State of California, with the boundaries described in the said constitution, shall be and is hereby declared to be one of the United States of America, and admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original Srates, in all respects whatever.

rica, and admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original Srates, in all respects whatever.

See. 2. The said State of California shall never interfere with the primary disposal of the soil within the same by the United States, nor with any regulations Congress may make for securing the title in such soil to bona fide purchasers thereof, and no tax shall be imposed on lands the property of the United States; which said provisions are hereby declared to be fundamental conditions upon which the said State is admitted into the Union.

Mr. TOOMBS then proceeded, and spoke an hour on the mulject of slavery.
Mr. BAKER followed, and also spoke an hour in relation

or the admission of California into the Union.
Mr. McLANE, of Maryland, then obtained the floor, and consumed his allotted hour in a speech on the subject of slavery.

Mr. CONRAD next got the floor, but yielded to a motion

that the committee rise, which was agreed to. And the com On mation of Mr. FEATHERSTON the House then adjourned till to-morrow at 12 o'clock.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1850. Mr. BURT offered the following resolution, which was

agreed to:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the justice and propriety of refunding to the State of South Carolina the money paid by that State to her troops who served in the Florida war; and that they report by bill or otherwise.

On motion of Mr. THOMPSON, of Miss., the House re-

On motion of Mr. THOMPSON, of Miss., the House resolved i's:li into Committee of the Whole on the State of the
Union, (Mr. Boyn, of Kentucky, in the chair,) and resumed
the consideration of the special message of the President of
the United States, transmitting the Constitution of California.
Mr. CONRAD being entitled to the floor, occupied it for
an hour in expressing his views on the subject of slavery in

Mr. PARKER followed, and also spoke an Hour on the Mr. SACKETT next obtained the fl or, but gave way to

motion that the Committee rise, which being agreed to,
The Committee rise and the House adjourned.